

# A Tabular Outline for Use in Reporting Hospital Morbidity\*

JOSEPH BERKSON, M.D., F.A.P.H.A.

*Division of Biometry and Medical Statistics, The Mayo Clinic,  
Rochester, Minn.*

ESSENTIAL to any comprehensive system of keeping account of diagnoses in the record rooms of hospitals is provision for a tabular summary of such diagnoses, of the sort that may be made for annual reports. In a previous article<sup>1</sup> I discussed the relationship of this function to other purposes which must be considered, and described a scheme for adapting the whole system to punch cards. Here I shall deal only with an amplification of that part of the subject which deals with the matter of the enumeration of diagnoses in tabular form.

Much discussion of the question of indexing medical diagnoses is needlessly confused because of failure to distinguish between a number of different problems involved. There is, for instance, the consideration of "nomenclature." Whether a pathologic condition should be called "pernicious anemia," "idiopathic anemia," "hyperchromic microcytic anemia," or "Addison's disease"; whether another condition shall be designated "melanotic carcinoma," "melanotic sarcoma" or "melanoma"; whether "lymphadenitis" is an acceptable term—are all important questions in relation to the science of

nosology. They are not essential, however, if the task is that of enumerating the individuals suffering from those conditions. There is, again, the subject of *classification* of disease, which also is not a central consideration for the systematic enumeration of diagnoses. Classification is a *scientific* enterprise which proceeds in strictly logical fashion according to some defined, descriptive principle (*e.g.*, "anatomic," "etiologic," "symptomatic"). It deals essentially with the abstract concepts of diseases rather than what is observed in individuals who are subject to them. The disease entity "carcinoma" may be logically divisible into the classes adenocarcinoma and epithelioma; and so far as the science of taxonomy is concerned, these two mutually exclusive classes may be exhaustive. But for statistical enumeration, there will have to be a place for patients with the diagnosis of "carcinoma" (*i.e.*, unknown with regard to whether glandular or epithelial) as well as for "neoplasm" (*i.e.*, unknown with regard to whether carcinoma or sarcoma). On the other hand, for purposes of enumeration a single principle in the ordering of the tabular categories is not a *sine qua non*.

These rather elementary observations are made to forestall hundreds of questions that one may hear discussed when the indexing of diagnoses is the subject;

\* Read before the Vital Statistics Section of the American Public Health Association at the Sixty-sixth Annual Meeting in New York, N. Y., October 5, 1937.

but they do *not* concern us here and it will be well to exclude them explicitly from our present consideration.

What we *are* concerned with is the practical problem of providing an outline in terms of which an enumeration of diagnoses can be made and one that will be satisfactory for *statistical* purposes. A list of rubrics which will be satisfactory in that sense should have certain characteristics: (1) The individual rubrics should be sufficiently broad to make possible the assignment of diagnoses, even if not made with great refinement, yet narrow enough to be usefully discriminating. (2) The number of such rubrics or classes should be reasonably short.

Bolduan has discussed the value that a uniform system of reporting hospital morbidity might have for enlightening questions of interest to public health. In the Division of Biometry and Medical Statistics of The Mayo Clinic we have for the last several years struggled with the problem, with the practical objective of providing a tabular outline that would furnish a reasonably simple and consistent statement of the diagnoses made annually. After considerable experimentation we decided to use as a basis for our outline the International List of Diseases and Causes of Death,<sup>3</sup> for the reason that that set of rubrics has the widest current use for purposes of statistical enumeration.\* However, since our aim was to report morbidity, not mortality, it was necessary to modify it. Certain of the entries in the *International List* refer necessarily only to deaths such as "homicide" and "violent deaths." Other entries had to be changed because they were not as clear or specific

as necessary. In still other cases, when the entries of mortality were translated into diagnoses of morbidity there resulted an overlapping of designations. We therefore modified the entries, but in doing this we proceeded on the principle that the original arrangement and designations be disturbed as little as possible, and in each instance only for definite reasons. In this way we hoped to preserve, so far as was possible and consistent with the purposes in hand, the facility of comparing statistics of morbidity with statistics of mortality, as reported in terms of the *International List*. Yet, for our list a rather considerable number of modifications had to be made. We have now used this set of rubrics for the tabulation of the experience of three successive years, and more than 300,000 diagnoses have been assigned according to it. Yet it is not to be considered as a finished product. In response to repeated requests we are publishing this list now and it is to be hoped that it will be tried by a number of representative hospitals. It would be highly desirable if the experiences of different hospitals were accumulated and from the assembled experience a list to be developed which could be adopted as standard.

The set of rubrics is given in Table I, together with code numbers which can be used in a three-column punch card code or which can be translated into a single-column multiple-punch code. It will be noted that unused numbers are interspersed liberally in the code for additional entries. In parentheses to the right of the entries are given the numbers of the *International List*<sup>4</sup> which correspond to the rubrics of The Mayo Clinic List. Since a number of the classes of the *International List* have been considerably subdivided and rearranged, various of The Mayo Clinic rubrics correspond to particular diagnoses that may be found in several rubrics of the *Inter-*

\* Other individuals, I am aware, have made up similar lists. Specifically, Selwyn D. Collins of the U. S. Public Health Service has used a list, which is a modification of the *International List of Causes of Death*, for the summarizing of morbidity surveys. But the List of The Mayo Clinic is specifically adapted to hospital morbidity, and moreover has had a trial for several successive years.

*national List.* The outline is not, of course, a list of diagnoses but a list of rubrics into which diagnoses are fitted, though in particular places a rubric may correspond to a single specific diagnosis. It is essentially a statistical and practical instrument, not a guide for scientific diagnosis or an authority for proper medical nomenclature. In practical application there

is used in conjunction with the outline of rubrics an index of diagnoses. Here are arranged, alphabetically, detailed diagnoses with the code numbers corresponding to the rubrics to which they belong, and in this index are incorporated decisions as to the disposition of diagnoses which, from a consideration of the outline alone, would be equivocal.

TABLE I

*Tabular Outline of Rubrics for General Morbidity Reports in Hospitals,  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.*

## I. INFECTIOUS AND PARASITIC DISEASES

Mayo  
Clinic  
Code

- 002 Typhoid fever (1)
- 003 Paratyphoid fever (2)
- 004 Typhus fever (3)
- 005 Relapsing fever (4)
- 006 Undulant fever (5)
- 007 Smallpox (6)
- 008 Measles (7)
- 009 Scarlet fever (8)
- 010 Whooping cough (9)
- 011 Diphtheria (10)
- 012 Influenza (respiratory) (11a)
- 013 Cholera (12)
- 014 Dysentery, amebic (13a)
- 015 Dysentery, bacillary (13b, c)
- 016 Plague (14)
- 017 Erysipelas (15)
- 020 Acute poliomyelitis and acute polioencephalitis (16)
- 021 Lethargic or epidemic encephalitis (17)
- 024 Glanders (19)
- 025 Anthrax (*Bacillus anthracis*) malignant pustule (20)
- 026 Rabies (21)
- 027 Tetanus (22)
- 030 Tuberculosis, respiratory system (23)
- 032 Tuberculosis, meninges and central nervous system (24)
- 035 Tuberculosis, gastro-intestinal tract (25, 31)
- 037 Tuberculosis, vertebral column (26)
- 040 Tuberculosis, bones, except vertebral column (27a)
- 042 Tuberculosis, joints, except vertebral column (27b)
- 045 Tuberculosis, skin (28)
- 047 Tuberculosis, genito-urinary system, male (30)
- 048 Tuberculosis, genito-urinary system, female (30)
- 050 Tuberculosis, eye (31)
- 052. Tuberculosis, e.e.e.\* (29, 31, 32)
- 055 Leprosy (33)
- 065 Syphilis, primary (34)
- 075 Syphilis, secondary (34)
- 080 Syphilis, tertiary, skin (34)
- 081 Syphilis, tertiary, vascular (34)
- 082 Syphilis, tertiary, eye (34)
- 083 Syphilis, tertiary, bone (34)
- 084 Syphilis, tertiary, central nervous system, e.e.e. (34)
- 085 Syphilis, tertiary, e.e.e. (34)
- 095 Syphilis, congenital (34)
- 105 Syphilis investigated, serology positive (34)

- 106 Syphilis, e.e.e. (34)
- 112 Gonococcus infection, joints (35)
- 113 Gonococcus infection, genito-urinary organs, male (35)
- 114 Gonococcus infection, genito-urinary organs, female (35)
- 115 Gonococcus infection, eye (35)
- 116 Gonococcus infection, e.e.e. (35)
- 121 Venereal disease, e.e.e. (35)
- 123 Septicemia (36)
- 126 Yellow fever (37)
- 127 Malaria (38)
- 132 Diseases due to protozoal parasites, e.e.e. (39)
- 134 Ankylostomiasis (40)
- 137 Hydatid cysts (41)
- 140 Diseases caused by helminths, e.e.e. (42)
- 141 Actinomycosis (43)
- 145 Mycoses, e.e.e. (43)
- 146 Chickenpox (44a)
- 147 German measles (44b)
- 148 Mumps (44c)
- 152 Infectious and parasitic diseases, e.e.e. (44c)

## II. NEOPLASMS

- 154 Neoplasm, malignant, lip, (45)
- 156 Neoplasm, malignant, tongue (45)
- 159 Neoplasm, malignant, salivary glands (45)
- 162 Neoplasm, malignant, buccal cavity and pharynx, e.e.e. (45)
- 165 Neoplasm, malignant, esophagus (46)
- 169 Neoplasm, malignant, stomach (46)
- 172 Neoplasm, malignant, small intestine (46)
- 175 Neoplasm, malignant, large intestine, except rectum (46)
- 177 Neoplasm, malignant, rectum (46)
- 180 Carcinomatosis, abdominal (46)
- 183 Neoplasm, malignant, pancreas (46)
- 185 Neoplasm, malignant, gallbladder and ducts (46)
- 188 Neoplasm, malignant, liver (46)
- 193 Neoplasm, respiratory system (47)
- 196 Neoplasm, malignant, uterus (48)
- 199 Neoplasm, malignant, ovary (49)
- 202 Neoplasm, malignant, genito-urinary organs, female, e.e.e. (49, 53)
- 205 Neoplasm, malignant, breast (50)
- 210 Neoplasm, malignant, testicle (51)
- 213 Neoplasm, malignant, prostate (51)
- 216 Neoplasm, malignant, adrenal gland (51, 53)
- 219 Neoplasm, malignant, kidney (51, 53)
- 221 Neoplasm, malignant, bladder (51, 53)
- 224 Neoplasm, malignant, genito-urinary organs, male, e.e.e. (51)
- 227 Neoplasm, malignant, skin, e.e.e. (52)
- 230 Neoplasm, pituitary (53, 54e, 55e)

\* e.e.e. means except elsewhere enumerated.

- 232 Neoplasm, brain, including cranial nerves, e.e.e. (53, 54d, 55d)  
 235 Neoplasm, spinal cord (53, 54e, 55e)  
 237 Sarcoma, bone, any part of body (53)  
 244 Hemangio-endothelioma and Lymphangio-endothelioma, except brain or spinal cord (53)  
 247 Neoplasm, malignant, thyroid (53)  
 250 Neoplasm, eyeball and orbit (53, 54e, 55e)  
 255 Melanocarcinoma, e.e.e. (53)  
 257 Neoplasm, malignant, e.e.e. (53)  
 263 Fibroma, uterus (54b)  
 268 Endometrioma (54b, c)  
 271 Polyp, female genital tract (54b, c)  
 274 Neoplasm, nonmalignant, abdominal or pelvic, female, e.e.e. (54b, 55b)  
 276 Adenoma, prostate (137)  
 278 Neoplasm, nonmalignant, skin (54e)  
 279 Lipoma (54e)  
 281 Hemangioma and lymphangioma (54e)  
 287 Neoplasm, nonmalignant, bone (54e)  
 290 Neoplasm, nonmalignant, breast (54e)  
 295 Polyp, gastro-intestinal tract (54e)  
 298 Polyp, nose (54e)  
 299 Neoplasm, nonmalignant, respiratory system, e.e.e. (54e)  
 300 Von Recklinghausen's disease (neurofibromatosis) (54e)  
 303 Neoplasm, nonmalignant, nerve, e.e.e. (54e)  
 306 Neoplasm, e.e.e. (53, 54e, 55e)  
 310 Neoplasm, follow-up examination

### III. RHEUMATIC DISEASES, NUTRITIONAL DISEASES, DISEASES OF THE ENDOCRINE GLANDS, AND OTHER GENERAL DISEASES

- 312 Acute Rheumatic fever (56)  
 317 Rheumatism, e.e.e. (57)  
 320 Gout (58)  
 322 Diabetes mellitus (59)  
 325 Diabetes, e.e.e. (69)  
 327 Scurvy (60)  
 330 Beriberi (61)  
 332 Pellagra (62)  
 335 Rickets (63)  
 340 Acromegaly, without pituitary tumor specified (65)  
 342 Hypopituitarism (65)  
 345 Diseases of the pituitary body, e.e.e. (65)  
 348 Adenoma, toxic, thyroid (66a)  
 349 Adenoma, nontoxic, thyroid (66a)  
 350 Exophthalmic goiter (66b)  
 353 Goiter, e.e.e. (66e)  
 355 Myxedema (66c)  
 358 Cretinism (66c)  
 361 Tetany, parathyroid (66d)  
 363 Tetany, e.e.e. (66d)  
 366 Diseases of the thyroid and parathyroid glands, e.e.e. (66e)  
 371 Addison's disease (31, 68)  
 373 Dysfunction, ovarian (139b)  
 375 Endocrine disturbances, e.e.e. (69)  
 376 Obesity (69)

### IV. DISEASES OF THE BLOOD AND BLOOD-MAKING ORGANS

- 377 Purpura (70a)  
 380 Hemophilia (70b)  
 382 Pernicious anemia (71a)  
 388 Anemia, e.e.e. (71b)  
 391 Leukemia (72a)  
 393 Lymphosarcoma (72b)  
 396 Hodgkin's disease (72b)  
 399 Banti's disease (73)  
 404 Diseases of the spleen, e.e.e. (73)  
 407 Polycythemia vera (74)  
 410 Agranulocytosis (74)  
 413 Diseases of the blood and blood-making organs, e.e.e. (74)

### V. POISONINGS AND INTOXICATIONS

- 416 Alcoholism (75)  
 418 Poisoning, by inhalation gas (178)  
 423 Poisoning, lead (77a)  
 425 Poisoning, e.e.e. (77b, c)

### VI. DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND OF THE ORGANS OF SPECIAL SENSE

- 428 Encephalitis, e.e.e. (78)  
 430 Abscess, brain (78)  
 433 Meningitis, e.e.e. (18, 79a, b)  
 436 Progressive locomotor ataxia (tabes dorsalis) (80)  
 439 Charcot joint (80)  
 442 Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and combined sclerosis (81)  
 445 Progressive muscular atrophy (81)  
 448 Progressive muscular dystrophy (81)  
 451 Syringomyelia (not associated with tumor) (81)  
 454 Multiple sclerosis (87b)  
 457 Friedreich's ataxia (81)  
 459 Ataxia, Marie's (81)  
 462 Paralysis and other residuals of cerebral hemorrhage (82a)  
 466 Paralysis, central nervous system, e.e.e. (87b)  
 470 Paralysis, peripheral nerves (87b)  
 472 Diseases of the Spinal Cord and Brain, e.e.e. (81)  
 475 Aneurysm, brain (96)  
 478 Cerebral embolism and thrombosis, acute, e.e.e. (82b)  
 481 General paralysis of the insane (83)  
 483 Dementia praecox and other psychoses (84, 87b)  
 486 Neuroses, minor (functional complaints) (87b)  
 489 Epilepsy, except Jacksonian (85)  
 491 Trigeminal neuralgia (87a)  
 492 Paralysis, facial (82d)  
 493 Paralysis, cranial nerves, e.e.e. (82d)  
 494 Neuralgia and neuritis, e.e.e. (87a)  
 497 Chorea, Huntington's (87b)  
 499 Chorea, except Huntington's (87b)  
 505 Idiocy (87b)  
 507 Migraine (87b)  
 511 Diseases of the nervous system, e.e.e. (86, 87b)  
 515 Glaucoma (88)  
 517 Cataract (88)  
 520 Amaurosis (88)  
 523 Trachoma (88)  
 525 Errors of refraction (88)  
 527 Diseases of the organs of vision, e.e.e. (88)  
 529 Otitis media (89a)  
 530 Deafness (87b, 89a)  
 532 Ménière's disease (89a)  
 535 Diseases of the ear, e.e.e. (89a)  
 538 Diseases of the mastoid process (89b)

### VII. DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

- 542 Rheumatic heart disease (56, 92, 93, 95b)  
 545 Hypertensive heart disease (95b)  
 548 Subacute bacterial endocarditis (92a)  
 550 Angina pectoris (94a)  
 551 Coronary embolism and thrombosis (94b)  
 553 Diseases of the heart, e.e.e. (90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95)  
 555 Vascular aneurysm, e.e.e. (96)  
 558 Arteriosclerosis, e.e.e. (97)  
 563 Raynaud's disease (98)  
 566 Thrombo-angiitis (99)  
 568 Diseases of the arteries, e.e.e. (99)  
 571 Phlebitis (100)  
 573 Hemorrhoids (100)  
 576 Varicose veins (100)  
 578 Diseases of the veins, e.e.e. (100)  
 581 Lymphangitis (101)  
 583 Hypertension, essential (102)  
 586 Hypertension, e.e.e. (102)  
 588 Anomalies of the blood pressure, e.e.e. (102)  
 592 Diseases of the Circulatory system, e.e.e. (103)

## VIII. DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

- 595 Rhinitis, vasomotor (104a)
- 598 Rhinitis, except vasomotor (104a)
- 601 Diseases of the nasal fossae and annexa, e.e.e. (104)
- 603 Sinusitis (104b)
- 605 Laryngitis (105)
- 608 Diseases of the larynx, e.e.e. (105)
- 610 Bronchitis (106)
- 613 Bronchopneumonia (107a)
- 615 Lobar pneumonia (108)
- 619 Pneumonia, e.e.e. (109)
- 622 Pleurisy (110)
- 624 Pulmonary embolism and thrombosis (111a)
- 627 Pulmonary edema (111b)
- 629 Asthma (112)
- 631 Pulmonary emphysema (113)
- 634 Abscess, lung (114b)
- 637 Diseases of the respiratory system, e.e.e. (114a, 114b)

## IX. DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

- 640 Vincent's angina (115a)
- 643 Tonsillitis (115a)
- 646 Diseases of the pharynx, e.e.e. (115a)
- 648 Infected or impacted teeth (115b)
- 649 Parotitis, e.e.e. (44c)
- 653 Diseases of the buccal cavity and annexa and lip, e.e.e. (115b)
- 655 Stricture, esophagus (116)
- 657 Diverticulum, esophagus (116)
- 660 Diseases of the esophagus, e.e.e. (116)
- 662 Ulcer, stomach (117a)
- 664 Ulcer, duodenum (117b)
- 666 Ulcer, jejunum (123)
- 668 Peptic ulcer, not specified as to location (123)
- 670 Dyspepsia (118)
- 673 Cardiospasm (118)
- 675 Diseases of the stomach, e.e.e. (118)
- 678 Colitis, ulcerative (120)
- 681 Diarrhea and enteritis, e.e.e. (119, 120)
- 684 Appendicitis (121)
- 687 Hernia, inguinal (122a)
- 689 Hernia, abdominal (122a)
- 692 Hernia, diaphragmatic (122a)
- 694 Hernia, femoral (122a)
- 697 Hernia, vaginal (122a)
- 701 Hernia, intestinal, e.e.e. (122a)
- 703 Diseases of the anus and rectum, e.e.e. (123)
- 706 Intestinal obstruction (122b)
- 710 Diseases of the intestines, e.e.e. (123)
- 712 Cirrhosis of the liver, specified as alcoholic (124a)
- 715 Cirrhosis of the liver, not specified as alcoholic (124b)
- 717 Yellow atrophy of the liver (125a)
- 720 Diseases of the liver, e.e.e. (125b)
- 722 Biliary calculus (126)
- 725 Cholecystitis (127)
- 729 Diseases of the gallbladder and biliary passages, e.e.e. (127)
- 731 Diseases of the pancreas, e.e.e. (128)
- 734 Peritonitis, e.e.e. (129)
- 736 Subphrenic abscess (129)

## X. DISEASES OF THE GENITO-URINARY SYSTEM

- 744 Nephritis, e.e.e. (130, 131, 132)
- 746 Displaced kidney (133)
- 749 Purulent infection, kidney (133)
- 751 Polycystic kidney (133)
- 755 Diseases of the kidneys and ureters, e.e.e. (133)
- 756 Renal calculus (134)
- 758 Ureteral calculus (134)
- 761 Vesical calculus (134)
- 767 Cystitis (135)
- 770 Fistula, bladder (135)

- 774 Diseases of the bladder, e.e.e. (135)
- 776 Stricture, urethra (136a)
- 780 Diseases of the urethra, e.e.e. (136b)
- 781 Diseases of the urinary system, e.e.e. (136b)
- 782 Calculus, prostate (137)
- 786 Prostatitis (137)
- 788 Diseases of the prostate, e.e.e. (137)
- 791 Orchitis (138)
- 796 Diseases of the male genital organs, e.e.e. (138)
- 805 Diseases of the ovaries and diseases of the tubes and parametrium, e.e.e. (139a, b, c, e)
- 807 Conditions of endometrium, e.e.e. (139c)
- 810 Malposition, pelvic organs, female (139c)
- 816 Multiple pelvic diseases, female (139a, b, c, e)
- 820 Diseases of the uterus, e.e.e. (139c)
- 821 Menopause (139c)
- 825 Mastitis (139d)
- 829 Nonpuerperal diseases of the breast, e.e.e. (139d)
- 831 Vaginitis (139e)
- 835 Diseases of the female genital organs, e.e.e. (139e)

## XI. DISEASES AND CONDITIONS OF PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH AND PUERPERAL STATE

- 838 Abortion (140, 141)
- 843 Ectopic pregnancy (142a, b)
- 847 Pregnancy, e.e.e., with parturition here (143)
- 848 Pregnancy, e.e.e., with parturition elsewhere (143)
- 851 Placenta praevia (144a)
- 853 Puerperal Hemorrhages, e.e.e. (144b)
- 855 Puerperal septicemia and pyemia (145a)
- 858 Eclampsia (146)
- 860 Toxemia of pregnancy, e.e.e. (147)
- 863 Puerperal phlegmasia alba dolens, embolus, or phlebitis (148)
- 865 Conditions of the puerperal state, e.e.e. (145b, 150)

## XII. DISEASES OF THE SKIN

- 868 Furuncle, carbuncle, acute inflammation skin (151, 152)
- 873 Herpes (153)
- 875 Pemphigus (153)
- 878 Scleroderma (153)
- 882 Diseases of the skin, e.e.e. (153)

## XIII. DISEASES OF THE BONES AND ORGANS OF LOCOMOTION

- 885 Osteomyelitis (154)
- 887 Paget's disease, bone (155)
- 890 Fracture, acute, skull (194b)
- 894 Fracture, acute, bone, e.e.e. (194b)
- 895 Fracture, old, any bone (155)
- 905 Diseases of the bones, e.e.e. (155)
- 908 Arthritis, e.e.e. (156a)
- 910 Dislocation, joint (156a)
- 913 Sacro-iliac disease (156a)
- 916 Diseases of the joints, e.e.e. (156a)
- 918 Myasthenia gravis (156b)
- 921 Bursitis (156b)
- 923 Myositis ossificans (156b)
- 926 Talipes, acquired (156b)
- 928 Torticollis (156b)
- 931 Dupuytren's contracture (156b)
- 935 Diseases of the organs of locomotion, e.e.e. (156b)

## XIV. CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS

- 938 Hydrocephalus (157a)
- 940 Spina bifida and meningocele (157b)
- 943 Congenital malformations of the heart (157c)
- 945 Branchial cyst (157d)

948 Congenital talipes (157d)  
 950 Harelip (157d)  
 953 Hirschprung's disease (157d)  
 955 Hypospadias (157d)  
 956 Undescended testicle (157d)  
 957 Congenital malformations, genito-urinary system, e.e.e. (157d)  
 958 Imperforate anus (157d)  
 961 Congenital defects, e.e.e. (157d)

#### XV. DISEASES AND CONDITIONS OF EARLY INFANCY

963 Normal birth  
 965 Premature birth (159)  
 966 Stillbirth  
 967 Injury at birth, in new born (160)  
 969 Atelectasis, in new born (161a)  
 971 Icterus of the new born (161b)  
 974 Diseases peculiar to early infancy, e.e.e. (158, 161c, d)

#### XVI. SENILITY

976 Senility (162)

#### XVII. INJURIES

986 Injuries by animals (176, 188)  
 988 Injuries, acute, e.e.e. (184-214)  
 989 Injuries, old (posttraumatic and postsurgical conditions included)  
 990 Foreign body, bronchus or digestive tract, including larynx and lung (194a)  
 992 Foreign body, e.e.e. (194a)

#### XVIII. MISCELLANEOUS

994 Follow-up examination, postoperative, except neoplasm—310  
 995 Diseases, e.e.e. (69)  
 996 Hospital investigation  
 997 Negative general examination  
 998 No diagnosis or incomplete examination  
 999 Confidential file

TABLE II  
*General Summary*  
*Diagnoses in 1936*  
*Total Patients 65,097*

Diagnoses	Patients			
	Total	Non-Surgical		Surgical
		Out Patient	Hospital	
<b>I Infectious and Parasitic Diseases</b>				
Typhoid fever	2		2	
Paratyphoid fever	2	2		
Undulant fever	19	13	6	
Measles	8	8		
Scarlet fever	49	28	21	
Whooping cough	17	17		
Diphtheria	3		3	
<b>VII Diseases of the Circulatory System</b>				
Rheumatic heart disease	251	212	36	3
Hypertensive heart disease	674	434	237	3
Subacute bacterial endocarditis	21	6	14	1
Angina pectoris	734	636	97	1
<b>XVIII Miscellaneous</b>				
Check-up examination, post-operative, except neoplasm	989	898	37	54
Diseases, e. e. enumerated	2,017	1,703	177	137
Hospital investigation	751		626	125
Negative general examination	1,702	1,702		
No diagnosis or incomplete examination	2,847	2,847		

In making our reports we do not attempt to select from among several simultaneous diagnoses a single "primary" one to be reported, but the same diagnosis is not assigned more than once to a particular patient in any one year, regardless of the number of visits or hospitalizations. In principle there is no limit to the number of simultaneous different diagnoses that may be enumerated; in practice, comparatively trivial diagnoses are not reported and overlapping diagnoses are combined into unit diagnoses referable to a single, definite condition. The cases in each rubric are reported in terms of the total number of patients,

and, of these, the number of outpatients, the number hospitalized surgically, and those hospitalized non-surgically. The form of a report is given in Table II.

#### REFERENCES

1. Berkson, Joseph. A System of Codification of Medical Diagnoses for Application to Punch Cards, with a Plan of Operation. *A.J.P.H.*, 26:606-612 (June), 1936.
2. Bolduan, C. F. Compiling Morbidity Statistics: a Fertile Field for Hospital Executives. *Mod. Hosp.*, 45:37-39 (Aug.), 1935.
3. Commission internationale pour la revision décennale des nomenclatures internationales des maladies (causes de décès, causes d'incapacité de travail) devant servir à l'établissement des statistiques nosologiques (classification Bertillon): Quatrième session, 16-19 Octobre, 1929. Paris, Imprimerie nationale, 1930, 223 pp.
4. *Manual of the International List of Causes of Death*, 1929. Washington, Gov. Print. Press, 1931, 342 pp.

---

## Nursing Service Honored

AT the opening session of the National Nursing Biennial Convention, held in the Municipal Auditorium, Kansas City, Mo., April 25, the Walter Burns Saunders Memorial Medal was presented to Helen McDonough, of Pittsburgh, Pa., Chairman of the Private Duty Section of the American Nurses' Association, as representative of all bedside nurses. Dr. Loyal Davis, professor of surgery at North Western University Medical

School, Chicago, Ill., made the award.

The recipient of the medal is decided upon by a Committee of Awards, composed of the presidents of the three national nursing organizations — the American Nurses' Association, the National League of Nursing Education, and the National Organization for Public Health Nursing—and of W. L. Saunders of Philadelphia, in memory of whose father the medal is presented at each Biennial Nursing Convention.